

RESOLUTION DRAFT

A Resolution of the Rockville City Council Creating a Youth Commission

January 12, 2010

Rockville City Government

Phyllis Marcuccio; Mayor
John Britton; Council Member
Piotr Gajewski; Council Member
Bridget Newton; Council Member
Mark Pierzchala; Council Member

RESOLUTION DRAFT

ATTACH B

A Resolution of the Rockville City Council Creating a Youth Commission

Whereas the City of Rockville Mayor and Council recognize the significant role and contribution youth contribute to our municipality; and

Whereas the City of Rockville Mayor and Council has several Boards and Commissions that directly impact youth in our community; and

Whereas the City of Rockville Mayor and Council seek initiatives to increase greater participation, expand diversity, and facilitate communication and interaction; and

Be It Resolved that a convention of Youth Delegates be formed from high schools within the City of Rockville Municipality to meet once a month in Rockville City Hall Chambers selected from their respective Student Government Associations and Student Councils to serve on an annual basis, ages 1~~4~~⁵ to 1~~8~~⁹, to serve in the capacity of a Youth Commission member; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Youth Commission members elect a Chair to work with the Youth Commission Advisory Board; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Mayor, with the consent of Council appoint a Council member and two (2) Citizen Liaisons to serve for a three (3) term as an advisor/mentor and as the Youth Commission Advisory Board in collaboration with the Youth Commission Chair and members; and

Be It Further Resolved that a representative from the Montgomery County Public Schools County-wide Student Government Association be invited to participate in these proceedings and

Be It Further Resolved that the Youth Commission Advisory Board and Youth Commission Chair, recommend to the Mayor and Council annual appointments to various Boards and Commissions as deemed appropriate by the Mayor and Council; and

Be It Further Resolved that the City of Rockville shall provide an agenda to Youth Commission members of the Boards and Commissions and Town Center Action Team; and

Be It Further Resolved that each Youth Commission member keep their respective student body informed of City issues and interests and shared with the City; and

Passed and Approved this _____ day of _____ 2010

Phyllis Marcuccio, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO RESOLUTION FORM:

City Attorney

Goals:

1. Seek input from youth related to City of Rockville issues and their impact ages 14 to 19, currently enrolled in high school
2. Increase awareness of the political process including increasing voter registration and voter turn-out during City elections
3. Support City of Rockville initiatives (Green, Sesquicentennial, Parks and Recreation, Town Center, Voter registration and turn-out, Bike Commission, etc) and promote on-going communication related to City events and school events (Homecoming, Prom, Extra-curricular Activities and Events, etc.)
4. Increase participation on Rockville's Boards and Commissions including the Town Center Action Team
5. Secure input from the Youth Commission, related to their respective school events and determine how the City of Rockville can support respective initiatives

Methodology:

Obtain and secure approval from Montgomery County Public Schools and private schools to contact respective student leadership team (Student Government Association and Student Council) as appropriate.

Consult and communicate with respective administrative team members (Principals of current feeder schools within Rockville City limits) and the staff sponsor of the respective Student Government Association/Council

The appointed Councilmember and Youth Commission Advisory Board will work with respective Student Government Association/Council staff member to advertise and secure members for the Rockville Youth Commission

The Youth Commission will meet monthly on the third Thursday in the Mayor and Council Chambers

An outcome from the Youth Commission meetings will be appointments to the various Boards and Commissions and the Town Center Action Team as deemed appropriate by the Mayor and Council and existing Boards and Commissions

Contact schools include: Gaithersburg High School, Richard Montgomery High School, Rockville High School, Walter Johnson High School, and Wootton High School. Youth Commission members must reside within the City of Rockville or Montgomery County. Public and Private schools may send up to four (4) members to participate in the Rockville Youth Commission (list to be expanded to include private schools as appropriate for example Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School)

The Youth Commission members will elect a student member to serve as Chair of the Youth Commission and work with the Youth Commission Advisory Board to plan meetings and agenda items as well as develop the appointment process to respective Boards and Commissions and the Town Center Action Team as approved by the Mayor and Council

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Do students need to belong to their respective Student Government Association/Council to be a member of the RYC?

Answer: No. Schools would be invited to send (4) four representatives from the student body at large. Students do not need to be a member of their respective school governments but are expected to communicate with school leaders regarding information related to City of Rockville and shared topics.

2. Can students earn Student Service Learning (SSL) hours or appropriate community service recognition?

Answer: Yes. The initial contact with the respective school agency will request that students receive recognition of SSL or community service

3. What type of procedures will be in place during the monthly RYC meetings?

Answer: The RYC will follow Robert's Rules of Order. Procedures including unforeseen absences (e.g. Youth Commission Chair) will be address following similar protocol in place for the Mayor and Council. Other identified positions such as a RYC Secretary, Sergeant of Arms, etc will be addressed by election from the RYC membership

4. What would a typical RYC monthly meeting look like?

Answer: The meetings would have a general format and be similar to the proceedings of the Mayor and Council meetings. The appointed Council member that serves on the Youth Advisory Board will provide the City updates (similar to the City Manager's report). An open forum for student comments from the RYC or students from represented schools can make comment at the YC Citizen's Forum. Items on the agenda addressed as appropriate followed by new business items

5. How is the student RYC Chair selected?

Answer: Voting process by secret ballot with procedures monitored and sanctioned by the (3) three RYC Advisory Board members

6. Will the RYC meet over the summer?

Answer: No. The RYC will not meet during the months of July or August

7. Will every Rockville Board or Commission have a RYC member?

Answer: No. student membership to Boards and Commissions will be authorized by the Mayor and Council. However, the request for a seat to be added to any existing Board or Commission can be an outcome of the RYC and the request made to Mayor and Council and notification to the respective body by the RYC secretary. The Rockville Mayor and Council and Boards and Commissions, with Mayor and Council approval, can request RYC membership by declaring a seat on their respective Board or Commission

8. How does a RYC member submit their name for consideration to a Board or Commission?

Answer: The RYC will comply with the same procedures that all citizens follow for appointments to Boards and Commissions, provided the Rockville Mayor and Council and existing Board or Commission support a seat for membership by the RYC.

9. Is the RYC permitted to vote on City matters?

Answer: No. However, the RYC is encouraged to forward written or verbal comments to the Mayor and Council using the existing format existing Boards and Commissions, Home Owner Associations (HOA) and Civic groups use to provide input as a stakeholder.

Administrative Leadership Team and Board of Education/Trustees for
Public and Private High Schools within Rockville City Limits

ATTACH B

Montgomery County Public Schools Board of Education boe@mcpsmd.org

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Board President, Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School

Draft letter to MCPS Board of Education

The Mayor and Council of Rockville will be creating a Youth Commission. The Rockville Youth Commission (RYC) will provide input to the Mayor and Council related to our mutual initiatives including and not limited to Pedestrian Safety, Town Center Business Development, Parks and Recreation, and other appropriate City of Rockville Boards and Commissions.

The process will require the adoption of a Resolution by the Mayor and Council and an amendment to our city Charter. The RYC will have an advisory board made up of a Council Member and (2) two Citizens appointed by the Mayor and Council. The RYC will meet monthly when school is in session.

To that end, the Rockville City Mayor and Council hereby request authorization to formally contact the feeder high schools within our municipality. The natural outreach for the City of Rockville is to coordinate with the existing Montgomery County Public Schools infrastructure of the Student Government Association (SGA) and their respective sponsor to assist in securing membership for the RYC. Students do not need to be Rockville residents. The list of schools will include; Richard Montgomery High School, Rockville High School, Walter Johnson High School, Wootton High School and Gaithersburg High School. We would anticipate and request that students that participate in the RYC be awarded student service learning (SSL) hours. Our Youth Commission Advisory Council will be our point of contact for the City of Rockville.

In conclusion, we view this as an excellent opportunity for all stakeholders. We are forwarding our Youth Commission Resolution for your review and comment. We look forward to working with the students in our community and appreciate your attention to this request.